Implementing the Recommendations of Committee on Anganwadi workers

717. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 262 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 11th December, 2006 and state:

(a) whether the Committee constituted to examine the current levels of honorarium and related issues of Anganwadi workers and Anganwadi helpers, has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the recommendations of the Committee; and

(c) the action taken by Government to implement those recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a)to (c)The Review Committee, constituted to examine the current levels of honorarium and related issues of Anganwadi Workers and Helpers, has submitted its report and the same is under the consideration of the Government.

Problems of AWCs

718. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government's Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is in a very bad shape given the fact that as many as 5,681 Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) are functioning in open space in 19 States across the country, since they have neither pucca nor kutcha buildings;

(b) whether approximately two lakh AWCs in the country have no facility for drinking water;

(c) whether the National Council for Applied Economic Research, which carried a survey for Government on the ICDS scheme has found that a staggering 10,000 AWCs are functioning from kutcha building; and

(d) if so, the concrete steps Government is considering to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) There are 863472 operational anganwadi centres out of 1052638 sanctioned Anganwadi centres in the country as on 30.6.2007. As per reports received from 22 States for 421758 AWCs, 6155 AWCs are functioning in open space. In the reporting 22 States, 149031 AWCs have drinking water facilities (Handpumps, Tap-water supply, Storage tank/Pit/others) out of 421758 AWCs.

(c) According to a study titled 'Rapid Facility Survey of Infrastructure at Anganwadi Centres' conducted by the Ministry through National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER), New Delhi during 2004-05,46% AWCs are running from pucca building, 21% AWCs from semi-pucca buildings; 15% from kutcha buildings; 9% in open space and 6% from other places; about 9% were running from the house of AWWs and 6.91% from Helper's house. It was also found that 46% of AWCs did not have toilet facilities & 27% lacked drinking water facilities. The survey covered a total of 287,684 AWCs in the country.

(d) Although the Scheme does not provide for construction activity, the Government has, as a special case, sanctioned construction of 47872 Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) in North Eastern States out of NER component of the budget of the Ministry during 2001-02 to 2006-07.

, The Government, under the proposed revamped ICDS Scheme, is also contemplating infrastructural development, during the 11th five year plan period.

To augment the infrastructural facilities in the AWCs, the Government is seeking assistance through convergence with the following schemes of the line Ministries:—

- Total Sanitation Campaign and Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme—Department of Drinking Water Supply.
- Backward Region Grant Fund—Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
- Scheduled Caste Sub Plan—Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.
- Tribal Area Sub Plan—Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- MPLAD—Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation

With the assistance from the World Bank, construction of 5 7447 AWCs, along with installation of 31368 hand pumps, was sanctioned in 20 States/UTs under the various Projects *viz.* ICDS-I, II, HI, and ICDS-APER. Construction of these AWCs was sanctioned during the currency of these projects over a period of 15 years (1991 -92 to 2006-07).

Rent for Anganwadi Centres has been revised periodically and the latest revision has been approved *w.e.f.* 1.2.2007. For AWC in Rural/Tribal projects the rent has been revised from Rs. 100/- p.m. AWC to Rs. 200/-p.m./AWC and for Urban Projects from Rs. 500/-p.m./ AWC to Rs. 750/-p.m./AWC.

Apart from this, all the State Govemments/UT Administrations have been addressed to seek support for creation of infrastructural facilities in the AWCs in areas identified under Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan/Tribal Sub-Plan from the funds available under the Schemes/ Programmes administered by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs respectively. States have also been advised to utilize the assistance of NABARD under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for the purpose.

Reducing domestic violence

719. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the special laws have not helped in reducing the violence against women in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government would involve women self help groups and NGOs, in identifying the victims of domestic violence;

(c) whether Government is also aware that twenty-two per cent of women in Delhi, who complained of domestic violence, got nearly killed and almost thirty-two per cent suffered severe beatings; and